

If claims 29-47 are found to be patentable, the Examiner is authorized to delete the unelected claims by Examiner's amendment.


The Examiner has indicated that the application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure, as required by CFR 1.72(b). Applicants traverse the requirement that an abstract on a separate page be supplied, since the present application is the national stage of a PCT application.

The Examiner is respectfully referred to MPEP §1893.03 (e), which states in part:

"When the international application is published as the pamphlet, the abstract is reproduced on the cover page of the publication, even though it appears on a separate sheet of the international application in accordance with PCT Rule 11.4(a). Thus the requirement of 37 CFR 152(b) that the abstract "commence on a separate sheet" does not apply to the copy of the application (pamphlet) communicated to the designated offices, by the International Bureau under PCT Article 20. *Accordingly it is improper for the examiner of the U.S. national stage application to require the applicant provide an abstract on a separate sheet if the abstract does not appear on a separate sheet in pamphlet.*"

In view of the above remarks, applicants submit that the claims are patentable. Notice to that effect is respectfully submitted

Respectfully submitted,
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